

CHIP Clips

Your source of updates, news,
and interesting facts relating to
the Palm Beach County
Community Health
Improvement Plan (CHIP)
January 2019



Top 3 Priority Areas for the Palm Beach County CHIP

- Mental and Behavioral Health
- Active Living and Healthy Lifestyles
- Access to Care and Services

Did you know?

- In 2017, Florida was one of nine states to experience statistically significant increases in their rate of uninsured children.
- School-aged children are more likely to be uninsured than young children, continuing the pattern seen in previous years. Children in both age ranges experienced significant increases in the uninsured rate in 2017.

SOURCE: [Georgetown University](#)

Number of Uninsured Children Rises in Florida and Across the Country



[Graphic from CDC](#)

A recent article in [Florida Trend Health Care](#) highlighted some results from a recent report on uninsured children. The report says the number of uninsured children rose nationally last year, and that Florida was one of the states where it increased the most. The [report](#), released by the Georgetown University Center for Children and Families, found that Florida, after years of marking declines in the number of children without health insurance, is suddenly seeing a rise. In 2016, it was estimated there were 288,000 uninsured children in Florida; that increased to 325,000 in 2017 (a rise of 37,000). Three-quarters of the children who lost coverage between 2016 and 2017 live in states that have not expanded Medicaid coverage to parents and other low-income adults. The uninsured rates for children increased at almost triple the rate in non-expansion states than in states that have expanded Medicaid. We know the importance of this issue here in Palm Beach, as one of our three CHIP priority areas is Access to Care and Services, and CHIP Goal 3 is “Improve access to comprehensive, quality care and services.” Thank you to all of our community partners who are working tirelessly on this vital issue for our community!

[For more information](#)

New Law Requires Hospitals to List Prices for Procedures

A recent [Orlando Sentinel](#) article explains that hospitals started posting the list prices for their procedures and supplies on their websites on January 1 in response to a federal requirement, which aims to improve price transparency in the healthcare system. Critics say that hospital list prices — called chargemasters — don’t translate to patients’ out-of-pocket costs, can confuse consumers, and may not move the needle in price transparency. The majority of Americans who have public or private insurance don’t pay the chargemaster prices. However, if you’re uninsured or out-of-network, you could be billed for the full list price. The impact of the law for Palm Beach County and other Florida residents in regards to health care access and cost transparency remains to be seen.

[See More](#)

Did you know?

- In 2018, The Palm Beach County League of Cities supported a number of legislative issues in a wide variety of areas.
- These areas included transportation, sober homes, growth management, opioid abuse, and water quality, among others.
- The 2019 60-day Legislative Session will begin on March 5, 2019 and is expected to end on May 3, 2019.

SOURCE: [Palm Beach County League of Cities](#)

Partner Spotlight: The Palm Beach County League of Cities

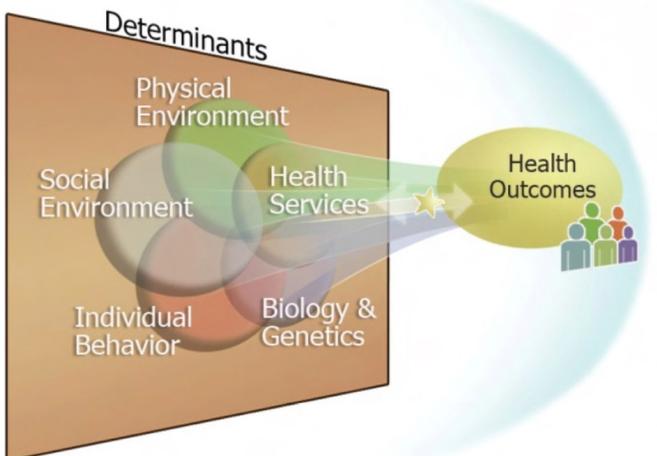
Chartered in 1969 as a non-profit corporation, the purpose of the Palm Beach County League of Cities, Inc., is to promote and advance the collective interest of the municipalities of Palm Beach County, Florida, to analyze municipal issues and seek positive results through cooperative efforts, to respect the principles of Home Rule, and to encourage and enhance the quality of life of the citizens of Palm Beach County. The League consists of all 39 municipalities in Palm Beach County, as well as over 100 Associate members. The Board of Directors, installed each May, includes 18 city officials. The current Executive Director is Richard Radcliffe, who is an active Palm Beach County CHIP Council member.

[To learn more](#)

Florida Health Reminds Residents that Taking Care of your Health Includes Getting Tested for STDs

We know that a healthy diet and exercise are the basics for achieving and maintaining good health, and that routine screenings for conditions and diseases of all sorts—blood pressure, mammograms, diabetes, even bi-yearly teeth cleanings—can prevent sickness and other health problems from taking root. So maybe it's lack of awareness or just plain stigma that keeps many sexually-active adults from being screened for sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). Either way, STD screening is safe, confidential (as all health screenings are) and easy, and most STDs can be cured with antibiotics. STD screening is a normal part of taking care of your health. In Florida, there has been a 32 percent increase in STD cases in the past five years, mirroring national trends.

[To learn more](#)



CHIP UPDATE

Issues of CHIP Clips are posted at the [DOH-Palm Beach](#) website.

Your data is vital to CHIP implementation and supports our CHIP objectives. Please send your data and information to Caroline Valencia from Health Council of Southeast Florida.

She can be reached at cvalencia@hcsef.org.

Stay tuned for announcement of next CHIP meeting date. Thanks again for your participation!

Thanks to the Health Council of Southeast Florida, the Health Care District of Palm Beach County, and all of our community partners in implementing our CHIP!

Also, please send Adam your ideas and comments for the newsletter; he's waiting to hear from you!